

## MISSOURI HIGHWAYS IN BAD CONDITION

AUTOISTS SAY THEY ARE THE WORST ROADS IN THE WEST.

EVERY EFFORT MADE TO HELP

Twenty-seven Vehicles Stalled on One Road, Emphasizes Need of Continued Care—Has Been Gov. Hadley's Hobby.

Jefferson City. Word comes to the capital city that an automobile driver has been complaining of Missouri roads. He says that 27 wagons and buggies stalled in the mud between Holden and Pleasant Hill, Mo., and tries to give an idea of the condition of Missouri roads after a heavy rain. William Warwick, the automobile man of Seattle, who is making a trip in a 1½-ton truck, under the auspices of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, counted the vehicles on his way from Holden to Pleasant Hill.

Warwick went from Seattle to New York in 31 days with a loaded truck. He left New York Oct. 4, using the National Old Trails Highway. The worst roads of the return trip were encountered in Missouri, he said.

Gov. Major has long made good roads a hobby, and it is well known that many thousands of miles of highways have been improved under his guiding hand. Frank Butum of Hannibal has also been active in this propaganda and every effort has been made to improve their condition.

### Blind Amendment.

Many voters apparently have become so confused as to the exact meaning of the proposed amendment to the Missouri constitution, which would permit the legislature to provide pensions for worthy blind persons, that those who are working in behalf of the amendment are concentrating their efforts to clear away misunderstandings.

Edward F. Endicott, a blind law student and chairman of the ways and means committee of the United Workers for the Blind, said that there seems to be a widespread impression that the adoption of the amendment would automatically create a pension fund, which is a false impression.

The proposed amendment simply empowers the legislature, whenever it sees fit, to pass laws to grant whatever subsidies to blind individuals it may deem advisable. The constitution as it stands makes any such legislation impossible, however desirable the law-making authorities might find it.

If the amendment is adopted, Endicott explained, it would then be necessary to convince the legislature, not only that a desired relief should be given as a matter of public policy, but also that any relief prayed for was actually needed and that any money appropriated would be properly spent.

### Live Stock Man Speaks.

Rudolph M. Patterson, a member of the state board of live stock commission from Chicago Heights, Cook county, addressed the Monroe County Farmer's Institute. Patterson's subject was "The Prevention of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Hog Cholera and other Animal Diseases."

The difference between farming now and 25 years ago when Patterson bought his first farm in Illinois is pointed out by the speaker. Patterson said that every year brought improvements both in method of farming and in the comforts for the family.

High-grade stock at a slightly increased cost was Patterson's recommendation over cheap stock at a low price. He said that this was particularly true in dairying. Patterson told the members of the institute that sanitation was one of the greatest problems of the farmer today.

### Raise Bank Tax.

The proceedings to overrule the city board of equalization of St. Louis in assessing the personal property of banks and trust companies has been argued before the supreme court. The state board of equalization has fixed the uniform value of the personal property of banks and trust companies at 50 cents on the dollar. This was increased in St. Louis by the local board to 70 cents adding about \$15,000,000 to the valuation of the taxable property of these institutions.

F. N. Judson appeared for the banks, while the city board of equalization was represented by City Counselor Young. A ruling is now expected for a month.

### Poultry Show.

The Poultry Show at St. Louis Thanksgiving week will have many new features never before seen in Missouri. For instance, there will be an immense exhibit of all varieties of pet stock, such as rabbits weighing 15 to 18 pounds each, cavies in a multiplicity of colors, squirrels, foxes, skunks and every imaginable kind of animal that can be caged.

In addition there will be quite a coffee show, and the St. Louis branch of the National Aquarium Society will have an exhibit of many rare fishes.

### Murderer Escapes.

Arthur Bittner, 26 years old, of St. Louis, serving a life sentence in the penitentiary here for the murder of his father, escaped when at McClung Park, where, as a member of the orchestra, he was playing at the weekly dance.

Bittner's escape was not noticed until the orchestra members were being checked in on their return to the penitentiary from McClung Park. It is supposed he disappeared about midnight, near the end of the dance. He was the first violinist. The band members always have been attired in white suits with no visible numbers.

The dances have been held at McClung Park since the completion, about eight months ago, of a large pavilion. They are attended mostly by the leading residents of the capital.

McClung Park is state property that has been improved and made into a pleasure resort with the aid of convict labor and public subscriptions among Jefferson City residents. It was named after Warden McClung.

Detectives, notified of Bittner's escape, have been watching St. Louis trains for him.

Bittner murdered his father, Arthur Bittner, Sr., July 22, 1913. At that time the youth wanted to marry Miss Myrtle Benhoff, but was without money, and his father, a North St. Louis butcher, refused to supply him.

One morning, as his father and his brother, Edward, were driving down town in an auto truck, Arthur got up behind them and shot his father in the head. Edward later accused Arthur of the crime.

Edward told the police he had not heard anything from his brother and hoped that they would catch him "before he sees me."

Miss Benhoff some time after Bittner went to prison, married Dandell Goodwin, an electrician, who killed her at her mother's home.

### Pensions Paid While Money Lasts.

The facts in the controversy between members of the state administration and the Republicans over pensions to the Confederate veterans appears to be as follows:

All of the money actually appropriated by the legislature for Confederate pensions has been paid. State officials are prohibited by law from paying out money not appropriated by the legislature.

The legislature of 1913 passed a law approved by Governor Major, to pension Confederate veterans at \$10 a month. As there are about 1,500 veterans in the state entitled to pensions, under the law it would require about \$180,000 thousand a year to meet the requirements of the law.

Under the policy of secrecy maintained by the administration, it is impossible to find out just how much the state is behind in the payment of these pensions. The statement of officials of the administration, and of Frederick D. Gardner, Democratic candidate for governor, that all the money appropriated for these pensions has been paid out is true, but the Republican charge that the state is behind with the pension is also true.

### Hadley for Rural Credits.

Judge Henry Lamm, Republican candidate for governor, who in his campaign speeches attacks the Gardner land bank bill and rural credits generally, is not in accord on this subject with former Gov. Herbert S. Hadley, whom Judge Lamm also in his campaign speeches professes to believe is the greatest statesman that Missouri has ever had since the days of Thomas Hart Benton.

Hadley believed so strongly in the "farm credits" idea that in his farewell message to the forty-seventh general assembly, at the close of his term of office as governor in January, 1913, he made a strong recommendation in favor of the system.

### Sues to Save Tax.

W. R. Orthwein of St. Louis, attorney for the Kinloch Telephone Co., has filed application in the state supreme court for a writ of mandamus against Secretary of State Roach to compel him to allow the company to extend its charter 20 years without paying the corporation tax of \$5,000. Orthwein holds that the incorporation law which provides that in original incorporation applications in which no period of time is specified, the period shall be understood to be 20 years, which gives the company the privilege of renewing at will without paying the original incorporation fee. Roach holds that the tax should be paid.

### Missouri's Poultry.

Missouri farmers, poultry raisers and others who supply the market with chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, squab, eggs, feathers and similar products in the year 1915, realized, approximately, \$58,883,385 through the sale of these commodities.

That Missouri is still poultry queen of the Union there is little doubt, since the 1915 farm products output was considerably in excess of the production of 1914.

### Ask for Better Shipping Facilities.

The Quick Meal Stove Company of St. Louis filed an application to interfere in a hearing to be held by the state public service commission, on the McKinley system's request for track connections with the Terminal Railroad Association. The hearing will be held in St. Louis at the Planters' Hotel on November 2.

The stove company wants track connections from its plant at King's highway and Daggett street with the McKinley system. Its officers state they now haul goods to the system.

## MEXICAN PLOT TO RAID FRONTIER

BAKER SAYS HE HAS INFORMATION ENEMIES OF WILSON PLAN TO ATTACK.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS WARNED

Secretary Lansing Declares Baker in Statement Had No Intention of Involving Americans.

Washington.—Secretary Baker has issued a formal statement saying definite information has been received by the war department that a bandit attack upon American troops in Mexico or on an American border town between now and the date of the election to create sentiment against the administration's Mexican policy.

It added that Gens. Funston and Pershing were forewarned and in all readiness for such an attack.

The statement follows: "The war department has received definite information, confirmed from other sources that enemies of the administration's Mexican policy, in cooperation with Villa or other bandits in Mexico, have arranged a spectacular attack to be made either upon some part of the American forces or upon some American community on the border between now and the date of the election for the purpose of turning the tide of sentiment against the administration's policy for the protection of the border.

"It is significant in this connection that both the state and war departments were advised that the bandit forces operating at the present time in Mexico are being paid in silver coin.

"Full particulars have been transmitted to Gens. Funston and Pershing. All American forces are, therefore, forewarned and in readiness for such an attack."

No additional information could be obtained from Mr. Baker, who left the city before the statement was made public for Martinsburg, W. Va., to deliver a campaign speech.

Secretary Lansing has authorized the statement that Secretary Baker had no intention to intimate that any American citizens were involved in the bandit attack plot.

### BRITISH SHIP IS TORPEDOED

Twelve Survivors From Mine-Sweeping Vessel, Admiralty Reports.

London, England.—The British mine sweeping vessel Genista has been torpedoed and sunk, according to an announcement given out by the British admiralty. All the officers and 73 members of the mine sweeper's crew were lost. The survivors number 12.

The official statement says: "One of our mine sweeping vessels, H. M. S. Genista, Lieutenant Commander John White, R. N., was torpedoed by an enemy submarine on Oct. 23 and sunk. All of her officers and 73 men were lost, and 12 were saved.

"When last seen the ship was sinking, but was still engaged with the enemy submarine."

### ADMITS PLAN TO AID U-BOATS

Max Weitsch of Willehad Confesses Authorship of Letters Intercepted by British.

Boston, Mass.—Max Weitsch, formerly of the crew of the interned North German Lloyd steamer Willehad intercepted and made public by British authorities regarding the Willehad's use to aid German submarine operations off the Atlantic coast. He refused to say where he obtained the information he was attempting to send to his brother in Germany.

The local manager of the Lloyd line denied that his company had any knowledge of the part the Willehad was to play in the submarine operations when she ran down the coast from Boston to New London.

### Man, Afire, Jumps Into Well.

Astoria, Ore.—Jens Jensen, a fisherman residing at Blind Slough, was burned, probably fatally, by the explosion of coal oil at his home. With his clothes in flames, Jensen rushed from the house and jumped in the well, from which he was rescued but frightfully burned.

### "Turn Clock Forward" Movement.

New York.—Preparations for a national "turn-the-clock-forward-an-hour" convention in this city in December were discussed at meeting here.

### Woman Driver in Collision.

London, Eng.—Out of 50 collisions on the Cardiff tramway system, states the manager, only three of them were in cases of cars driven by women.

### Paralysis Case at Oklahoma U.

Oklahoma City, Ok.—Infantile paralysis has appeared at the University of Oklahoma. In Norman, it was reported to the state health department here. Carl Price, a student, living in a fraternity house, developed the disease, according to a report.

## FRENCH CAVALRY RECONNOITERING



General Joffre has kept these and nearly all his other mounted men within rifle range of the Germans. He knows they would be helpless before machine-gun fire in fields of trenches and barbed wire barricades. These men, who were photographed while reconnoitering in the Somme region, are as fine cavalry as the world ever saw.

## 11 DIE, 25 MISSING IN FIRE

350 ASLEEP IN BUILDING WHEN BLAZE STARTS.

Fire Dead Are Children—Many Jump From Windows—Loss Is \$250,000.

Farnham, Quebec.—Six adults and five children, at least, lost their lives in a fire which destroyed St. Elizabeth's hospital yesterday. Fifteen to 25 persons are reported missing.

Farnham is about 40 miles from Montreal.

More than 350 persons were asleep in the hospital when the blaze was discovered. Unable to make their way safely to the fire escape, nearly all of them jumped from windows.

Twenty-five children who leaped from the third story were badly injured when they landed on the stone pavement.

The hospital and a laundry were destroyed and several adjacent buildings were damaged by smoke and water. The fire is believed to have started in a defective chimney.

The institution was managed by the Grey Nuns and comprised two buildings, one for hospital patients, the other for school children.

Up to a late hour no bodies had been found, but the names of four missing, who are believed to have perished, were known. They were paralytics. Survivors were taken to many Farnham homes, making difficult the work of compiling a list of dead. Four children injured by jumping from windows may die.

The grey nuns displayed great heroism. One sister climbed to the third floor and risked her life handing helpless children through the windows to firemen and citizens who stood on ladders.

An early estimate placed the property at about \$250,000.

## WANT IRISH REBELS REBURIED

Irish Member of Parliament Asks If British Government Would Accede to Request.

London, Eng.—Laurence Ginnell, Nationalist member of parliament for Northwest Meath, asked Premier Asquith, in the house of commons, if in the interest of reconciliation the British government would accede to the desire of the Irish people and allow the bodies of the men executed last May during the Dublin revolt, to be removed from the place in which they now lie and be buried in consecrated ground.

Premier Asquith said the government was unable to accede to the request.

### Nine-Hour Day for Kansas Girls.

Topeka, Kans.—Women and girls will no longer be allowed to work longer than nine hours a day as a result of an order issued by the labor and industrial commission. All Kansas laundries also will be required to provide employees with suitable seats, heat deflectors, dressing rooms and cots where the women may rest.

### Gen. Mann to Succeed Giff.

Washington.—Brigadier-General W. A. Mann, commanding the army division with headquarters at Laredo, Tex., was selected for chief of the division for militia affairs in the war department, made vacant by the death of Major-General Albert J. Mills.

### Former Boer Commander Dies.

Philadelphia, Pa.—W. D. Synman, a commandant in the Boer army in the war with Great Britain, who came to this country shortly before the war ended and who later went to Mexico, is dead here from appendicitis.

### Woman's Slayer Found Guilty.

Chicago, Ill.—Edgar W. Foster was found guilty of the murder of Bertha Kubevitz and her 5-year-old son, of whom he was the father, and his punishment was fixed at life imprisonment.

## BRITISH LOSE 13 SHIPS IN RAID

TEUTONS SAY THEY SANK 11 STEAMERS AND 2 DESTROYERS IN CHANNEL.

RUMANIA NET GROWS TIGHTER

Von Mackensen Advances in Dobrudja Region While von Falkenhayn Closes in on Transylvanian Front Russians Defeated.

London, Eng.—The German troops on the Transylvania front have now reached Cumpulung, 20 miles within the Rumanian border, says a Petrograd dispatch to the Chronicle.

Berlin.—At least 11 outpost steamers and two or three torpedo boats or torpedo boat destroyers were sunk or damaged by a German torpedo-boat destroyer squadron in the English Channel, according to an official communication issued here.

The German torpedo flotilla returned safely to its base without any loss.

### Two German Destroyers Sunk.

London.—Two German torpedo-boat destroyers attempted to raid the English Channel transport service, but the attempt failed, says an official statement issued by the British admiralty. Two of the German destroyers were sunk and the others driven away.

One British torpedo-boat destroyer, the Flirt, is missing, the British statement says, and another, Nubian, was disabled by a torpedo and driven aground.

Nine members of the crew of the Flirt were saved.

Advancing northward in Dobrudja, von Mackensen's troops have reached a line running from Hirsowa, on the Danube, to Casapkeul, on the Black Sea coast, from forty to 60 miles from where they crossed the Constantza-Tchernavoda railroad line.

### Russians Admit Defeat.

Petrograd.—Although offering stubborn resistance to the German-Bulgarian-Turkish forces attacking in Dobrudja, the Russians and Rumanians are retreating to the north of a line between Hirsowa and Casapkeul. This line is approximately 40 and 60 miles north of the Tchernavoda-Constantza railway line.

### Austro-Germans Repulsed.

Bucharest.—Russo-Rumanian troops are engaged in successful fighting all along the Rumanian-Transylvanian frontier. Austro-Germans attacks in the Tulghe and Bicase regions and in the Trotus valley were repulsed, while in the Uzul Valley the Rumanian advance is continuing.

### Workers Given 10 Per Cent Increase.

Chicago.—To meet the increased cost of living, the Peoples' Gaslight & Coke Co. has announced a voluntary raise of 10 per cent in the wages of 3,700 employees—all of whom are getting less than \$200 a month. The raise will add \$350,000 to a payroll of \$3,700,000.

### 3 Trainmen Killed in Gibson, Ind.

Gibson, Ind.—Three trainmen were killed when the caboose in which they were riding was demolished by an engine of another train which ran into it in the trainyard here. The dead: Frank Wilson, yardmaster; William Kohl, a conductor, and G. W. McDonald, a switchman.

### Panama Canal Tolls \$7,411,682.

Washington, D. C.—In the first two years of operation the Panama canal tolls amounted to \$7,411,682, although the waterway was closed half of a year due to repairs. A total of 2,097 ships passed through the canal.

### Germans to Capture Skippers.

London.—According to a wireless dispatch from Zurich, a German naval authority announces that the Germans have decided to regard as prisoners all captains of merchant vessels captured from the French, Russians, English and Italians, alleging that these captains received instructions from their governments to carry on espionage.

### Oils Brought by Deutschland Stolen.

New York.—Between \$5,000 and \$10,000 worth of oils and chemicals, part of the cargo brought to Baltimore by the German merchant submarine Deutschland, were stolen from the storehouse of Pfaltz & Bauer, it was revealed when Joseph Connolly, 23 years old, was arrested on a charge of burglary.

### Big Canal Opened in Sweden.

Berlin.—The new Trolpastia canal in Sweden has been opened by King Gustav, says the Overseas News Agency. The canal establishes communication between Vener Lake and the North Sea.

### Kills Man for Deer: Arrested.

Bemidji, Minn.—Having shot and killed Eugene Preston, whom he mistook for a deer, according to advice received here, Richard Martin of Grant Valley, Minn., is held under a charge of manslaughter.